

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)REPORT NO.                     

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TOPIC Military Information from Altenburg

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DATE PREPARED 6 August 1951

REFERENCES

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     

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1. On 22 June 1951, about 60 soldiers, who wore red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia and carried full packs, marched from the barracks installations in Altenburg (N 51/K 27) to the railroad station. Six trucks were seen hauling officers and EM with luggage to the barracks installations on 27 June. Numerous trucks,                      were parked at the Infanterie Kaserne on 3 July 1951, and about 300 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets and equipped with light and heavy machine guns bivouacked nearby. In the evening, the troops were no longer seen there and, since no windows in the installation were lighted, they must have departed.                      hauled 20 soldiers with luggage to the railroad station on 5 July.                      were entering or leaving the barracks installation on the same day.

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2. Between 22 and 25 June, five platoons of Soviet soldiers were said to have marched from Muensa near Altenburg toward the Altenburg railroad station. On 4 July,                      about 300 soldiers with black-bordered crimson epaulets marching along the same route. They were led by a lieutenant colonel and organized into 12 platoons, including 2 telephone construction platoons and 2 x 80-mm mortar platoons. All of the soldiers entrained at the Altenburg freight yard in the afternoon. Among the materiel loaded were 2 x 76.2-mm AT guns, 1 x 160-mm mortar,                      The train left toward the north on the same evening.

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- \*                      Comment. The information                      that the small units of troops equipped with easily transported weapons came from the direction of Muensa, west of Altenburg airfield, indicates that the troops came from the airfield. According to a report of                      infantrymen had landed at the airfield from gliders towed by transport planes of the air transport regiment stationed there. See                     . According to paragraph 1 of the present report, elements of the unit that landed at the airfield seemed to have

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stayed temporarily at the Infanterie Kaserne before departing  
 from Altenburg by rail. Since the motor vehicles which hauled  
 the troops to the railroad station belong to headquarters units  
 of the Eighth Gds Army in Altenburg, the unit's identity cannot  
 be determined. However, since the motor vehicles  
 belong to the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div rather  
 than to the units in Altenburg, it is believed that the unit  
 transported by air was a component of this division. The  
 reference report which stated that soldiers  
 with parachute equipment who departed from Altenburg airfield  
 by plane left their equipment behind at the quarters constitutes  
 another vague indication that the troops mentioned in the present  
 report returned to Altenburg from an exercise and were not  
 air-borne troops newly assigned to duty in the Soviet Zone  
 of Germany.

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